

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 119

To require the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to the Congress a joint report addressing the question of United States Government responsibility for providing benefits and services to disabled individuals who served with certain voluntary organizations that provided significant assistance to the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to the Congress a joint report addressing the question of United States Government responsibility for providing benefits and services to disabled individuals who served with certain voluntary organizations that provided significant assistance to the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam era.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. REPORT REGARDING THE PROVISION OF BENE-**
2 **FITS AND SERVICES TO DISABLED OVERSEAS**
3 **VOLUNTEER SUPPORT PERSONNEL FOR THE**
4 **ARMED FORCES DURING THE VIETNAM ERA.**

5 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide
6 a basis for the executive branch and the Congress to evalu-
7 ate the question of United States Government responsibil-
8 ity for providing overseas volunteer support personnel with
9 Federal and other benefits and services (including health
10 care and monetary compensation) in connection with dis-
11 abilities which may be related to their experiences during
12 their service in the Republic of Vietnam in support of the
13 activities of the Armed Forces of the United States during
14 the Vietnam era.

15 (b) REPORT.—(1) In order to carry out such purpose,
16 the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Health and
17 Human Services, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
18 shall jointly prepare a report on the question described
19 in subsection (a). The report shall include a description
20 of the benefits and services that should be provided to
21 such overseas volunteer support personnel, various alter-
22 native approaches to providing such benefits and services
23 (together with comments on the appropriateness and the
24 advantages and disadvantages of each alternative ap-
25 proach), and any recommendations by such officials for
26 legislative and administrative action to establish a pro-

1 gram for providing such benefits and services to such over-
2 seas volunteer support personnel.

3 (2) The report required by this subsection shall be
4 submitted to the President and the Congress not later
5 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this Act:

7 (1) The term “overseas volunteer support per-
8 sonnel” means individuals who, for a period of at
9 least 30 days during the Vietnam era, served in the
10 Republic of Vietnam as employees of, or volunteer
11 workers with, a voluntary organization determined
12 by the Secretary of Defense to be an organization
13 that provided significant assistance to the Armed
14 Forces of the United States in the Republic of Viet-
15 nam during the Vietnam era. Such term does not in-
16 clude members of the Armed Forces.

17 (2) The term “Armed Forces” has the meaning
18 given such term in section 101(10) of title 38, Unit-
19 ed States Code.

20 (3) The term “Vietnam era” has the meaning
21 given such term in section 101(29) of such title.

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